

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4 to 8, 10 to 15 are presently active in the application. Claim 15 has been amended.

In the Advisory Action mailed August 30, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the drawing correction filed August 13, 2004 was approved.

Claims 3-8, 10 and 11 were identified as being allowable in the Advisory Action.

Claims 2 and 12-15 were identified as being rejected in the Advisory Action. The Examiner noted in the advisory action, with respect to claim 15, that "claim 15 does not clearly define ["]each pulse data is corresponding to one of the plurality of nozzles".

By this amendment, independent claim 15 has been amended to make clear that each pulse data corresponds to one of the plurality of nozzles. This feature is not disclosed or suggested by Wen. Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn.

Also, according to the claimed invention, the nozzle profile data includes waveform data for each of the plurality of nozzles, and the waveform data indicates a waveform of the driving data for each one of the plurality of nozzles. On the other hand, in Wen, each LUT 60-63 corresponds to a set of respective nozzles for each given color (see column 3, line 52-54). Therefore, it can be understood that the LUT 60 shown in Fig. 2 is prepared for the plurality of nozzles for one color. An ejection timing and a waveform are determined based on the parameters set in the LUT 60-63. Because Fig. 2 shows only one set of parameters for 1st PULSE, 2nd PULSE,... which determine waveforms, these parameters should be provided in common for all of the plurality of nozzles. In other words, the parameters indicate waveforms, and each of the waveforms is for all of the plurality of nozzles, but not for each one of the nozzles.

Moreover, Wen discloses a technology for eliminating the positional error by changing the ejection timing, but does not disclose a technology for

eliminating the difference of ink volumes among the nozzles (although Wen discloses a technology for changing an ink volume for achieving a desired print density). In Wen, even if the same waveform is applied to all of the nozzles, positions on which ink droplets ejected from the nozzles impinge differ, i.e., placement error occurs. However, it can be understood that in Wen, when the same waveform is applied to all of the nozzles, ink volumes of all of the nozzles are the same.

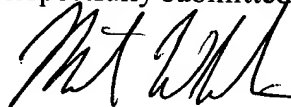
According to the present invention, difference in ink volume among the nozzles can be eliminated.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered in a view of this second amendment after final rejection, and the first amendment after final rejection filed on August 13, 2004 and its supplemental amendment filed August 23, 2004, and that claims 2, 4 to 8, 10 to 15 be allowed, and that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Whitham, P.C.).

Respectfully submitted,



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